

inflamed oral tissue samples and primary oral keratinocytes and fibroblasts. The transcripts for hBD-1 and -2 as well as for PLA-2 and lysozyme were found to be widely expressed. In the group of the alpha-defensins, the message for the **human** neutrophil peptide-1 (HNP-1) was frequently detected, whereas an expression of **human** Paneth's cell **defensin-5** (**HD-5**) was identified in only a minority of samples. Transcripts for **HD-6** were not detectable in any sample, Oral keratinocytes but not fibroblasts contained transcripts for the beta-defensins, suggesting that these defensins are produced in the epithelial compartment. In contrast, mRNA expression of neutrophil-derived HNP-1 and PLA-2 was not observed in any of these cells. These results suggest an important role for hBD-1 and hBD-2 in the innate oral epithelial host defense.

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      E HUMAN DEFENSIN
      E "HUMAN DEFENSIN"
      E DEFENSIN
L1      4099 S E3 AND HUMAN
      E HD-5
L2      127 S E2 AND L1
      E ATTENUATED
L3      304185 S E3
      E BACTERIA
L4      1935727 S E3
L5      7775 S L3 AND L4
L6      0 S L2 AND L5
L7      2179015 S L3 AND BACTERIUM OR BACILLI AND GERMS MICROBES AND ORGANISMS
L8      617 S L7 AND L1
L9      4 S L2 AND L8

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